**David Schmitt** 

5<sup>th</sup> Grade

What advice would you give a family about a new pet so that its offspring will not end up in the local animal shelter? My first advice would be to get the dog spade. That way they don't have to worry about any puppies.

I would also tell the family to take really good care of their dog, by getting all of its shots, getting a really good collar wit its name on it. This way if the dog ever gets out of the yard, whoever finds the dog will know the dog's name and the phone number of the owner.

I would tell the family that they need to make sure they have a food fence to keep their puppy in so that it doesn't get out of the yard and get lost. If the puppy is found on the street, the dog catcher might pick up their puppy and it will end up in the dog pound.

I would also tell the family to make sure and get a good leash and take the dog for walks. May be they can take the dog

to a park every now and then. This will help the dog to get good exercise.

If the new family takes good care of its pet, it won't get out and will never end up in the pound.

I hope they enjoy their new pet as much as we like our puppy, Buttercup. She is a yellow lab, and our whole family loves her.